**Special package for handloom sector at Kannur, Kerala**

3994. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced any special package for the development of handloom sector at Kannur, Kerala;

(b) if so, the total amount utilized so far under this special package;

(c) the total expected time for completion of the special package;and

(d) the total number of handloom weavers benefited under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) No, Sir, However, during the Eleventh plan period , Government of India has been implementing Integrated Handloom development Scheme, Marketing Export Promotion Scheme, Hondloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. Mill Gate Price Scheme and Diversified Handloom Development Scheme for the welfare of the handloom weavers and overall development of the Handloom Sector through out the country including in the State of Kerala. During 2007-08, a sum of Rs. 6.42 crore was released to Government of Kerala for the benefit of the handloom weavers and development of handloom sector in Kerala.

**Joint venture to modernize NTC mills**

3995. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the production status of National Textile Corporation (NTC) mills in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is contemplating to modernize the NCT mills;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal for Joint venture with private participation in the modernization of these mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (e) As per the Modified Rehabilitation Scheme, 2006 approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Group of Ministers (GoM), out of the 52 viable NTC mills, 12 mills where most of the employees opted Modified voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) and having no production activities, are presently proposed for closure after approval of BIFR. 22 mills are being modernized by NTC itself from funds generated through sale of surplus assets. List of these mills is enclosed as Statement-II (*See* below). Remaining 18 mills have been identified for modernisations through Joint Venture (JV) route. Private partners to run 5 of these mills have been finalized. List of these mills is enclosed Statement-III (*See* below). NTC has further published an advertisement inviting Expression of Interest from interested parties for 12 NTC mills to be modernized and run through JV route. List of these mills is enclosed as Statement-IV.